

**East Cheshire Quaker Meeting**  
**To be held as a blended meeting at Stockport Meeting House**  
**Saturday 15 November 2025 at 1.45 pm**

**Agenda**

1. Friends present
2. Reading
3. Caring for Friends
4. Resignation of membership  
*A letter from Caroline Thickbroom is circulated with this agenda. Please read in advance of the meeting as there will not be time to read the letter in the meeting.*
5. Termination of membership  
*We have received the following minute from Stockport Meeting held on 2 November.*  
**15. Members who have lost touch with us.**  
We have lost touch with Andy Bowerfeld and Amanda Suthers. We ask Area Meeting to consider withdrawing their membership.
6. Marple Meeting  
*We have received the following minute from Marple Meeting held recently.*  
**25.11.06: Future of the meeting:** Following our meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup> to consider the future of Marple Meeting we are aware that our diminishing pool of active Friends means we are concerned for how we may move forward.  
Sue Pounder raised our concern at a recent meeting of ECAM Pastoral Friends and Elders.  
We are considering various possibilities for continuing to meet in person.
  - We could become a informal worshipping group, but would still need to pay for a room.
  - We could continue, but meet once or twice a month
  - We could be under the care of another meeting
  - We must consider that a continuing presence in Marple could mean we grow again in the future.
  - We could put effort into Marple Outreach with the support of AM Friends
  - We could meet at other times.
  - Opening up is a problem, with not enough people to do this.  
We ask for the support of Area Meeting as we try to discern the right way forward.  
We will send this minute with minutes 4 and 5 to Area Meeting Clerk and also to Alison Tarpey-Black, our local development worker.*Minutes 4 and 5 record that Marple Meeting was unable to appoint clerks or a Friend to serve on the Area Meeting Nominations Committee.*

7. Area Meeting appointments

*(a) We have received the following nominations from our Nominations Committee.*

Area Meeting Clerk:	Peter Eccles	to serve until 31/12/2026
Trustee:	Pat Baker	to serve until 31/12/2028
Elders:	Leneh Buckle	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Frances McCann	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Frances Hill	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Elizabeth Ayres	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Jan Vulliamy	to serve until 31/12/2028
Pastoral Friends:	Sarah Worth	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Celia Davies	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Dot Ainscough	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Pam Lamb	to serve until 31/12/2028
	Elizabeth Lees	to serve until 31/12/2028
Conflict Advisory Group:	Veronique Pin-Fat	

*Area Meeting Nominations Committee minuted that Pam Lamb, forwarded by Frandley Meeting for service as a Pastoral Friend, is not in membership but given that she is faithful Friend well known in her Local Meeting and the Area Meeting they were pleased to support this nomination.*

*(b) We have received the following nomination from Stockport Meeting.*

*Area Meeting Nominations Committee: Joan Armstrong to serve until 31/12/2028  
Marple Meeting is unable to find a Friend to serve on this committee.*

8. Release from service

*Hilary Brooks has asked to be released from service as a Pastoral Friend.*

9. Meeting for Sufferings held 3-5 October 2025

*A written report from Keith Braithwaite is circulated with this agenda.*

10. Quaker Life Regional Day held in Manchester on 27 September

*A written report from Gillian Smith is circulated with this agenda.*

11. All age worship at Stockport in January

*We have received the following minute from Stockport Meeting held on 2 November.*

**12. All Age Worship**

*All Age Worship on January 4<sup>th</sup> will be followed by bowling. We ask AM to fund the bowling. We estimate this to cost between £150 and £200.*

13. Regional Gathering at Stockport on 22 November

*Further to Minute 25.09.09 we will receive an update on the arrangements.*

14. Ecumenical representative of Quakers in Greater Manchester

*The area meetings in Greater Manchester have been asked by Judith Baker, the Yearly Meeting Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer, to work together to find a Friend to represent Quakers in Greater Manchester. It will be a joint appointment by the three area meetings.*

15. Working more closely with neighbouring area meetings

*There is to be an event at Central Manchester Mount Street Meeting House on Saturday 29 November. Information about this has been received and is circulated with this agenda. It would be good if some East Cheshire Friends were able to attend.*

16. Dates and venues for Area Meeting business meetings in 2026  
*Proposed dates and venues will be circulated prior to the meeting.*
17. Future Area Meeting weekends away  
*Further to Minute 25.09.14, the following weekends have now been booked: 9-11 October 2026 at Hinsley Hall, Leeds and 17-19 September 2027 at Glenthorne.*
18. Intervisitation schedule for 2026  
*A proposed schedule is circulated with this agenda.*
19. Stockport Meeting: change of clerk  
*We note that Margaret Moss is now clerk of Stockport Meeting.*
20. Annual duties  
*We need to ask local meetings to report on how they have managed their annual duties.*
21. Outward affairs  
*We need to remind Friends of their responsibility for the right ordering of their outward affairs.*
22. Intervisitation  
*We might invite local meetings to report to Area Meeting in January on visits undertaken in 2025.*

*Stockport Friends will serve a lunch of soup and other bits and pieces from about 12.30. Before this Friends might like to visit the Fair Trade & Eco Christmas Fair in the Stockport Guildhall close by on Wellington Road (poster circulated with this agenda).*

**Papers circulated with this agenda**

Letter from Caroline Thickbroom  
Report on October Meeting for Sufferings  
Report on Quaker Life Regional Day  
Programme for Mount Street meeting on working with neighbouring area meetings  
Dates and venues for Area Meeting business meetings in 2026 (circulated later)  
Intervisitation schedule for 2026